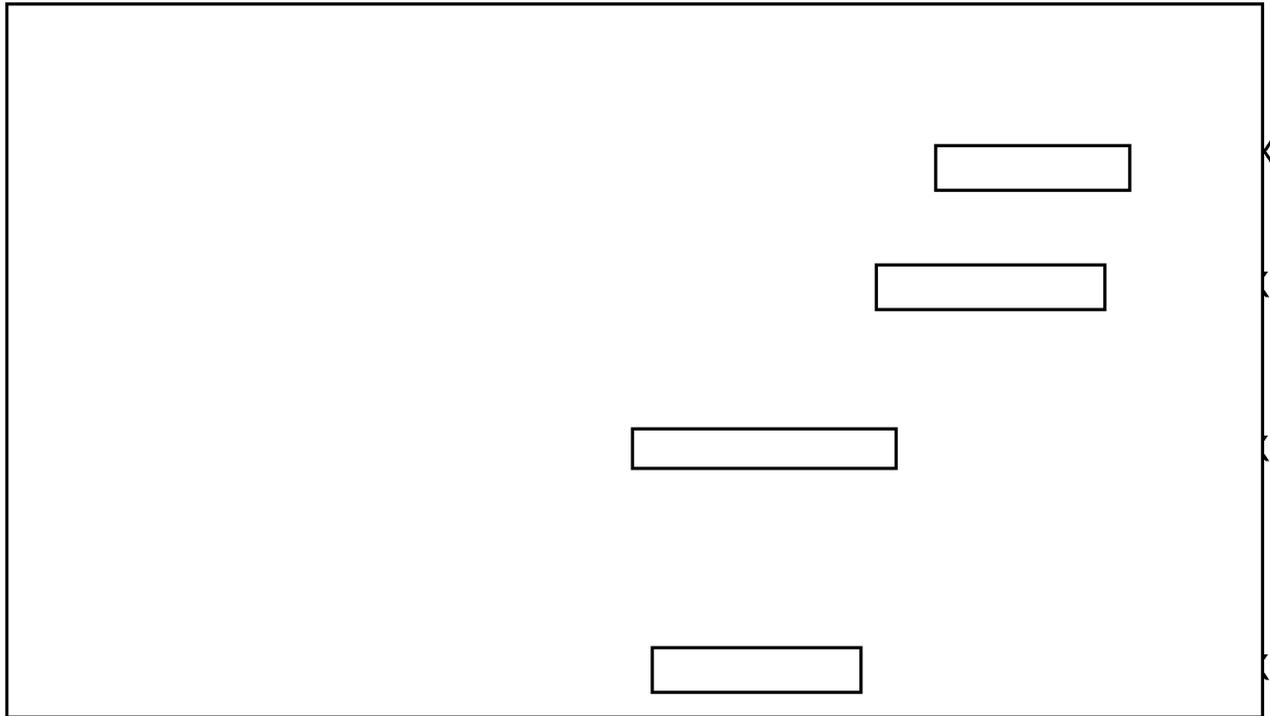


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USSR-UN

Soviet Ambassador to the UN Troyanovsky told US Ambassador Leonard yesterday that the USSR is "very angry" over the apparent connection between the Chinese attack on Vietnam and the US call for broad Security Council action on Indochina. The Soviet representative ruled out any formulation that links the Chinese action with Vietnam's involvement in Kampuchea; the only alternative to exclusive condemnation of Chinese aggression, he went on, was no Security Council resolution at all. Troyanovsky, just back from Moscow, went out of his way to squelch the possibility--earlier hinted at by Ambassador Kharlamov of the Soviet UN mission--that Kampuchea's future might be discreetly discussed once all Chinese troops had withdrawn from Vietnam. [redacted]

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The possibility of Security Council action regarding China's invasion of Vietnam and the Kampuchean situation seems to be declining. In the face of Soviet opposition, non-aligned members of the Security Council are reluctant to co-sponsor an ASEAN-proposed resolution calling for a ceasefire and withdrawal of foreign forces throughout the

area. The ASEAN states do not plan to submit it alone. Non-aligned members of the Security Council will meet to discuss resolution texts this morning, with the next meeting of the Council itself postponed until this afternoon. [redacted]

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Other Soviet Political Activities

A Chinese diplomat in Moscow told a US Embassy Officer on Sunday that the border river navigation talks between USSR and China opened as scheduled on 20 February in Blagoveshchensk. According to the Chinese official, the talks may conclude as early as the end of this week, barring any Soviet decision to suspend them first. These negotiations have been routinely held since the early 1950's and are limited to technical and procedural problems that arise over shared use of Sino-Soviet border rivers in the Far East. [redacted]

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The Chinese diplomat also reported that just prior to the Chinese assault in Vietnam, the Soviets offered their long-delayed response to the Chinese proposal for a 1979 bilateral trade accord. The volume of trade suggested by the Soviets fell considerably short of the level of exchange proposed by the Chinese, and failed to include the large coal-fired electrical generating equipment requested by Beijing. If Moscow remains willing to proceed, the Chinese expect detailed negotiations to begin in early March. The Chinese diplomat claimed that his Embassy had seen only minor signs of official Soviet displeasure since the latest outbreak of fighting in Indochina. [redacted]

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[Large redacted block]

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Pravda's version of Defense Minister Ustinov's electoral speech of last Friday deleted his references to the Soviet government statement of 18 February as a "major political document" containing a "serious warning" to the Chinese. Such editing probably reflects a continuing Soviet desire not to say too much too soon about Moscow's willingness to act on Vietnam's behalf.

[redacted]

Other Political Activity

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India may be revising its previous pro-Vietnamese position.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

B. Soviets watching with concern

1.

[Redacted]

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China/VN border

2.

[Redacted]

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3.

[Redacted]

-- Continued recce a/c flights on S/S border

4.

Soviet officials have warned in non-specific terms of possible Soviet retaliation if Chinese go "too far." However, Moscow has been careful not to commit itself in advance to any course of action.

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[Redacted]

5. Soviet options

- consultations (under Treaty of Friendship of November) - *Chief of SEA Division of Sov Foreign Ministry in Hanoi to discuss "probs of common concern"*
- conspicuous military aid, possibly including "volunteer" fighter pilots (7 Soviet cargo)

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Soviet Ships (as of 25 Feb)

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